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7008 Amherst Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63130  
June 28, 2001

Dear Dr. Summerson,

1 The "Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository... at Yucca Mountain" does not adequately address the hazards and problems of transporting nuclear wastes through populated areas to the Yucca Mountain site. Although St. Louis is centrally located for shipment of nuclear wastes, transporting irradiated fuel rods through downtown seems unsafe. On May 31, fourteen laden coal cars derailed and dumped their contents in a St. Louis suburb. Accidents happen. The accidental spilling of nuclear wastes could be lethal. Moreover, the plutonium and uranium are vulnerable to theft during transport.

2 Many scientists still doubt that nuclear wastes can be safely stored at Yucca Mountain. The site has 33 earthquake faults, and in June 1992 an earthquake caused over a million dollars in damage to DOE's research facility. A young volcanic field lies nearby. Moreover, the flow of groundwater through the site poses a threat of contamination to the aquifer.

3 If nuclear power plant sites are safe enough to contain fissioning fuel, then they should be able to safely store radioactive wastes. Until the problem of isolating and storing radioactive wastes away from living organisms has been solved, the power industry needs to stop generating these wastes and needs to store spent fuel at the generating plants, at least temporarily, while more scientific research searches for a safer solution.

Sincerely,



Leslie Lihou